



# St. James United Church

## An Affirming Ministry

Weekly Service Bulletin – November 12th, 2017

Stewardship Sunday / Dedication of Sign,  
Mural & Vestibule

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*Living fully, intentionally and compassionately*

*\*Please stand as you are able*

**PRELUDE / WELCOME AND LIFE AND WORK OF THE CHURCH / INTROIT**

### WE GATHER

#### **CHRIST CANDLELIGHTING**

One: We light our Christ candle symbolizing the start of a new day;  
that Jesus, the light of the world, permeates this time;  
and that in gathering together Jesus' light has been given body.

**All: Thanks be to God!**

#### **\*GATHERING SONG**

*Come Now, O God of Peace (sing twice)*

**VU#34**

Words, Music: © 1995 Geonyong Lee, Korean National Institute of Arts, 700 Seocho-dong Seocho-gu, Seoul, Korea. Translation: © 1995 Marion Pope, Apt. 316, 95 Prince Arthur Ave., Toronto, On M5R 3P6.

1. Come now, O God of peace, we are your people;  
pour out your spirit that we be one body.

#### **CALL TO CELEBRATION** *(responsive - based on A Song of Faith)*

One: The Spirit challenges us to celebrate the holy,

**All: not only in what is familiar, but also in that which seems foreign.**

One: We sing of the Spirit,

**All: who speaks our prayers of deepest longing  
and enfolds our concerns - transforming us and the world.**

One: We offer worship,

**All: as an outpouring of gratitude and awe and as a practice of opening ourselves  
to God's still, small voice of comfort, to God's rushing whirlwind of challenge.**

One: Through word, music, drama, reflection and renewed commitment - in community  
and in solitude - our lives, our relationships, our world is transformed.

#### **OPENING PRAYER**

One: Inviting and welcoming God, we gather this morning, to raise our voices in  
celebration and thanksgiving for this community.

**All: We gather this morning, desiring a closer relationship with our neighbours  
and with you. We gather this morning, seeking to understand your mission,  
and our place in it.**

One: Creating and revealing God, we gather this morning, with hopeful and expectant hearts, knowing that on this day, in this place, here, at St. James, we meet you in the love and community experienced here.

**All: Amen!**

**THE LORD'S PRAYER** (*spoken*)

**VU#921**

**\*HYMN**                    *Amazing Grace*

**VU#266**

*Amazing Grace* has been translated into 4 Indigenous languages, including:

Cree, Mohawk, Ojibway and Inuktitut. Words: John Henry Newton 1779. Music: from Virginia Harmony 1831.

1.     Amazing grace, how sweet the sound  
        that saved a wretch like me!  
        I once was lost, but now am found,  
        was blind, but now I see.
2.     'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,  
        and grace my fears relieved;  
        how precious did that grace appear  
        the hour I first believed.
3.     Through many dangers, toils, and snares,  
        I have already come;  
        'tis grace that brought me safe thus far,  
        and grace will lead me home.
4.     The Lord has promised good to me,  
        this word my hope secures;  
        God will my shield and portion be  
        as long as life endures.
5.     When we've been there ten thousand years,  
        bright shining as the sun,  
        we've no less days to sing God's praise  
        than when we'd first begun.

**THEME CONVERSATION**

**CHILDREN'S PRAYER**

Loving God, we thank you for our church, and all the ways we help each other, and our neighbours. We pray, that we will share our gifts and talents to make our community and our world a better place for everybody. Amen.

**STEWARDSHIP SKIT**

*Sally's Gift*

Marney Horton, Shirley Rolufs, Jim Lowes

**WE REFLECT**

**ANTHEM**

**MINUTE FOR STEWARDSHIP**

**Susan Weaver**

**EPISTLE READING**

Philippians 4:4-13 (NRSV)

**Joanne Rorke**

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honourable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

**Acknowledgment of the Philippians' Gift**

I rejoice in the Lord greatly that now at last you have revived your concern for me; indeed, you were concerned for me, but had no opportunity to show it. Not that I am referring to being in need; for I have learned to be content with whatever I have. I know what it is to have little, and I know what it is to have plenty. In any and all circumstances I have learned the secret of being well-fed and of going hungry, of having plenty and of being in need. I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

**\*HYMN***God of All Good***VU#539(\*to the tune of VU#501)**

Words: Albert F. Bayly 1962. Music: William Fisk Sherwin 1877.

1. God of all good, our gifts we bring to you,  
use them your holy purpose to fulfil;  
tokens of love and pledges brought a new  
that our whole life is offered to your will.
2. We give our mind to understand your ways,  
hands, eyes and voice to serve your great design;  
heart with the flame of your own love a blaze,  
till for your glory all our powers combine.
3. Maker, whose bounty all creation shows,  
Christ, by whose willing sacrifice we live,  
Spirit, from whom all life in fullness flows,  
to you with grateful hearts ourselves we give.

**REFLECTION***Why I Give to St. James***Karin DesChamp, Sue & Bob Field, Lorie & Angus Fitzgerald, Ed McLellan****WE RESPOND****OFFERING AND OFFERTORY MUSIC**

**\*SUNG OFFERTORY RESPONSE***What Can I Do?***MV#191**

Words and music: Paul Rumbolt and Michele McCarthy, arr. Alan C. Whitmore, 2005.

**What can I do? What can I bring? What can I say? What can I sing?  
I'll sing with joy, I'll say a prayer. I bring my love. I'll do my share.**

**\*OFFERTORY PRAYER** *(responsive)*

One: God of gift and giftedness, hear our prayers and receive this offering.

**All: In these plates, along with monies given through PAR,  
is our offering, a reflection of our glad and generous hearts.**

One: By your blessing and our labours may this offering be transformed into food for the hungry, drink for the thirsty, clothing for the naked, community for the lonely.

**All: And through our ministries may your good news be heard,  
your peace be felt, and your love be known. Amen!**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE****WE GO FORTH****\*HYMN***May the God of Hope Go with Us***VU#424**

Words: (v 2) Fred Kaan © 1993 Hope Publishing Company for USA and Canada. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Music: Argentine folk melody.

1. May the God of hope go with us every day,  
filling all our lives with love and joy and peace.  
May the God of justice speed us on our way,  
bringing light and hope to every land and race.

**Refrain:**

**Praying, let us work for peace,  
singing, share our joy with all,  
working for a world that's new,  
faithful when we hear Christ's call.**

2. May the God of healing free the earth from fear,  
freeing us for peace, both treasured and pursued.  
May the God of love keep our commitment clear  
to a world restored, to human life renewed. **R**

**\*BLESSING****\*SUNG BLESSING***Peace Be with You***MV#215**

Words and music: Alison L. Wesley (Slaats), 2000

Peace be with you, peace forever, peace be with you, my friends.  
Till we meet again, may God be with you. Peace, peace, peace.

**POSTLUDE**